

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

Patent Abstracts of Japan

PUBLICATION NUMBER : 03056433
PUBLICATION DATE : 12-03-91

APPLICATION DATE : 24-07-89
APPLICATION NUMBER : 01188836

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INT.CL. : C07C 43/04 C07C 41/09 // B01J 21/04 B01J 35/10 C07B 61/00

TITLE : PRODUCTION OF DIMETHYL ETHER

ABSTRACT : PURPOSE: To obtain the title compound with catalytic activity stable for a long period of time by dehydration of methanol in the presence of a γ -alumina catalyst with its physical properties regulated within a specified range.

CONSTITUTION: Methanol is dehydrated at 200 - 400°C under a pressure of 1 - 20 kg/cm² at a gas normal space velocity of 500 - 10000 hr⁻¹ in the presence of a porous γ -alumina catalyst having the following characteristics: (1) surface area: 210 - 300 (pref. 230 - 290)m²/g; (2) volume of the pores with the radius smaller than 300 Å: 0.60 - 0.90 (pref. 0.62 - 0.85)ml/g; and (3) average pore radius: 50 - 100 (pref. 50 - 80) Å.

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